

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 26, 2003 has been read and carefully considered and the present amendment submitted in order to point out the differences between the invention, as claimed, and the disclosures cited by the Examiner.

In that Office Action, claims 7-9 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldberg *et al*, U.S. Patent 6,296,606 in view of Patel, U.S. Patent 4,331,161. Claims 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as begin unpatentable over Goldberg *et al* in view of Patel and further in view of Koch, U.S. Patent 6,048,304.

To summarize, the invention disclosed and claimed herein is directed to a calibration system that is used with an infant apparatus to calibrate an electrical circuit that is used in the infant apparatus to sense the temperature of an infant. The calibration system eliminates the use of one or more potentiometers that are conventionally used to carry out that calibration and, therefore, with the present system, that calibration is automatically carried out and does not require a technician to tweak or verify the calibration of the temperature sensors for each piece of infant apparatus that is manufactured and thus, not only are the potentiometers eliminated, the present invention also eliminates the time required for the technician to carry out that task on each infant apparatus.

In carrying out the present invention, the calibration system inputs two known voltage signals into the electrical circuit that receives the signals from a temperature sensor to provide signals to a temperature display. Output voltage signals are determined from the electrical circuit that correspond to each of the input voltage signals and, from those readings, the system calculates the offset and span constants for the electrical circuit. Once the offset and span constants are known, those constants are used to calibrate that electrical circuit.

Thus, the invention is directed to the manner in which the electrical circuit is calibrated.

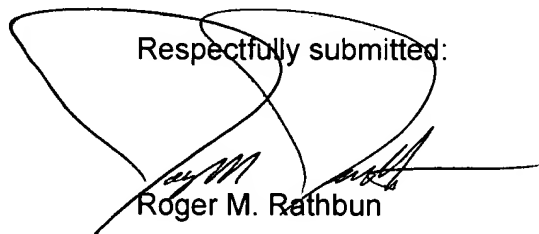
Turning to the cited references, the principal reference cited, that of Goldberg *et al*, does not disclose any particular means of carrying out a calibration, far less one by the use of the input voltage signals of the present invention and the determining of the offset and span constants by use of the known input voltage signals. Only briefly is there any mention of calibration in the Goldberg *et al* patent, i.e. column 17, lines 47 *et seq* and in that instance, there is only a reference to a "calibrated temperature measurement of the ambient air by sensor 206" and a "calibrated temperature measurement of the probe 202".

There is no further disclosure of how Goldberg *et al* carried out that calibration and it is likely that such calibration was carried out by the use of potentiometers as is conventional in such calibrations. In any event, there is nothing in the disclosure that describes the calibration system that was used or intended to be used.

The secondary references of Patel and Koch also do not disclose or in any way relate to calibration systems and were cited only as illustrative of the use of an analog to digital converter at an output of a temperature sensor output. As such, neither secondary reference is relevant to a calibration system for an infant care apparatus having a calibration system eliminating potentiometers as shown and described in the present specification.

Accordingly, the claims in this application are submitted as patentable over the references of record and an allowance of the present application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted:



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